

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

“The Invisible Man Provides God Access” – The Invisible Man Part 5

April 19, 2009

Questions written by Danny Quimlat



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hello Small Group Leaders,

Please sign up for the Seeker Small Group Leader Training! This is an amazing training even if you never intend on leading a “seeker small group.”

This training is for ANYONE who wants to learn some effective tools for sharing their faith with their non-Christian friends, family and acquaintances. Garry will use his 25 years of experience to equip you to have life changing discussions with those who are curious about God, in a loving and highly relational manner.

I strongly encourage you to attend this training with your entire small group! It is a great opportunity to raise the evangelist temperature of your small group as a whole, while still bonding together in a round table format.

Details and registration information for the training are below:

Hope to see you and your group there!

Blessings,

Danah Davis
Director of Small Groups

Seeker Small Group Leader Training

Course description: Right now, there are people in your life who are lost, disillusioned, and far away from God. What if you were to extend your hand of friendship to a few of them? What if you took the risk to pull together an informal, non-threatening gathering where these seeking friends could openly raise their questions and doubts about Christianity? What if you offered them a forum to discuss spiritual issues and encounter biblical truths? Imagine what might happen. They just might find what they’re looking for. They just might find Jesus—the only hope of the world! There is the option to take the class on either Monday or Tuesday night.

Instructor: Garry Poole

To register or for Class times and dates please reference the RockU website
www.therocksandiego.org/calendar/#seekerssmallgroup

MINISTRY PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for:

- *Small Group Coaches – ability to connect with their leaders. Deepened relationship with them.*

- *Small Group Leaders* – wisdom, guidance, love for their group members. Protection from discouragement, stress or other forms of spiritual attack so prevalent in leadership.
- *Small Group Staff* – wisdom and revelation as we restructure our department.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – “THE INVISIBLE MAN”

Getting Started

Hopefully you won't judge me or my mother for what I'm about to share with you, but my mom is an avid Lakers fan. She absolutely *loves* Bryant, Derek Fisher, Lamar Odom, and Andrew Bynum... she loves every one of them. And one thing I hope to do for her someday is be able to get her courtside tickets for a game held in the Staples Stadium. But they are *so* expensive. It frustrates me that only the seemingly wealthy people or those with the proper connections will ever have ACCESS to the ultimate Laker experience. What is something that you would absolutely love access to if you had the ability/resources to do it?

Digging Deeper:

(The majority of the points were taken from Miles' sermon from this past Sunday. It might be helpful to pull out Sunday's notesheet if you still have it in case you took any extra notes.)

The Holy Spirit gives us...

- 1.) **Access to God Himself**. Read Ephesians 2:11-13. The following passages describe us (e.g. Gentiles) as being “without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” Many of us have can still remember how “hopeless” we were before coming to know Jesus. Take some time and share who you were before Jesus, and then how did you come to know Him.
- 2.) Read Ephesians 2:15-18. Because of Jesus, we now have access to the Father. The relationship between Jesus and the Father was considered outrageous during this time. People were used to address God with fear and trembling, yet Jesus addressed him with so much adoration and intimacy. How do you tend to approach God? With fear, insecurity, and/or shame? Or, with awe, gratitude, and affection? Why do you think you approach God the way you do?

The Holy Spirit gives us...

- 3.) **Access to God's Power**. Read Acts 1:6-8. In Acts 1:8, we learn that it is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we are commanded to be what? Have you ever been able to share your faith with someone? Describe that experience. Is there anyone God has put on your heart to share your faith with?
- 4.) **Access to God's Insight**. Read I Cor. 2:14-16. Miles' described the difference between the natural person and the spiritual person. The natural person does what the flesh desires and the spiritual person does what the Spirit desires. Read Roman 8:5-9. What are situations and/or circumstances that you really struggle to do what the Spirit desires? For example, in the past, I struggled with road rage. Instead of exercising patience, grace, and love, I sometimes reverted to frustration, occasional foul language (don't judge me!), or revenge. When you are the weakest against the flesh?

Bringing it Home

Read John 15:1-17. These passages are very meaningful to me. On the night of Jesus' arrest, Jesus takes his best friends of over three years out in a garden, and shares with them how they are to connect with the Father. There are several things Jesus shows us that we have access to as long as we are connected to Him. What are those things? (Hint: which of the fruits of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 do we see in John 15:1-17). After reading John 15:1-17, what do you learn is the only thing we have to do in order to bear fruit? And, how will you change your lifestyle so that you can do that one thing better?